



# the mountain states Collector

DEVOTED TO  
ANTIQUES,  
COLLECTIBLES,  
FURNITURE,  
ART, DESIGN  
AND HISTORY.

NOVEMBER 2021

ESTABLISHED IN 1972

Volume 49, Number 11



## AMERICAN HISTORY

### November Anniversaries

**November 2**

Election Day

**November 9**

401 Anniversary of the Mayflower arriving at Cape Cod, MA (1620)

**November 10**

Congress establishes U.S. Marine Corps (1775)

**November 11**

Veterans Day (USA)

Remembrance Day (Canada)

**November 17**

Articles of Confederation submitted to the states for ratification (1777)

**November 25**

Thanksgiving Day

**November 26**

American Indian Heritage Day



Kevin Kuharic, Executive Director of the Hotel de Paris Museum in Georgetown, shared this image from the Museum's archives.

## Hotel de Paris Museum in Georgetown invites you to take your holiday pictures in front of their themed trees.

See Hotel de Paris Museum decked in festive Victorian style decorations. Self-guided tours and terrific photo opportunities in front of their themed trees are offered. It is all hosted by The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in the State of Colorado. Reservations are available at [hoteldeparismuseum.org](http://hoteldeparismuseum.org).

More Hotel de Paris Museum upcoming events include museum shop sales weekends through Dec. 12. Get in on this great sale of 25% off their unique antiques and collectibles.

Hotel de Paris Museum is a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and a member of Great American Treasures Museum Alliance. The Museum's Mission is: *To collect, preserve, and share history and culture associated with Louis Dupuy's Hotel de Paris, and serve as a catalyst for heritage tourism.*

To learn more about the Museum or to communicate with them, their address is PO Box 746, 409 6th Street, Georgetown, CO 80444. Their phone number is

303.569.2311. You can also email them at [kevin.kuharic@hoteldeparismuseum.org](mailto:kevin.kuharic@hoteldeparismuseum.org) or go to their website at [www.hoteldeparismuseum.org](http://www.hoteldeparismuseum.org).

During the first two weekends in December the town of Georgetown transforms into a bustling Christmas scene reminiscent of Christmas of long ago with roasted chestnuts, holiday shopping and horse-drawn wagon rides. Visitors enjoy appearances by St. Nicholas in his traditional dress and the daily procession of the Santa Lucia. Carolers in Victorian costume, dancers, and other family entertainment provide hours of memorable performances.

The Christmas Market also features an outdoor European marketplace with handcrafted gifts in addition to Georgetown's charming year-round shopping experience. Beautiful shops showcase Christmas ornaments and decorations, Victorian items for the home, art, Colorado wine, rare books, jewelry, exquisite clothing, antiques, and gifts.

Generations of Colorado families have made a visit to historic Georgetown, Colorado a Christmas tradition.



Presorted Standard  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Bailey, CO 80421  
Permit #45

Mountain States Collector  
Spruce Enterprises, Inc.  
Box 1003  
Bailey, CO 80421-1003

## Inside this Issue



**SHOW LISTINGS  
OCT., NOV. & JAN.  
PAGE 5**



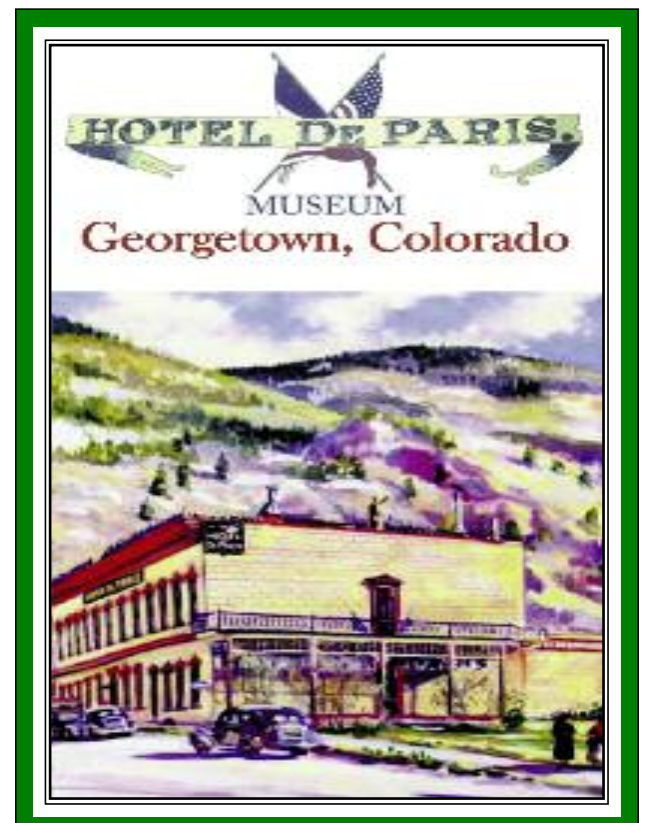
**PAPER MEMORIES OF  
THANKSGIVING  
PAGE 7**



**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN  
AMERICAN TREASURE  
PAGE 8**



**THE LIGHTING OF  
ART NOUVEAU  
PAGE 9**







# •C•O•L•O•R•A•D•O• ANTIQUE GALLERY

coloradoantiquegallery.com  
5501 S. Broadway • Littleton, CO 80121

## Happy Holiday Shopping

Holiday shopping is a wonderful experience at the Gallery! Wander 285 antique and vintage dealers in our warm and welcoming showroom, decorated for the holidays. From elegant and opulent, to shabby and chic, we have something for every taste and budget...and we've got a great LAY-AWAY plan too!

Dealer shelves are brimming over with fabulous merchandise. All of your holiday needs—from gift giving to glamorous entertaining—are here in our *Miles of Aisles* of eye-catching booths.

Meander through treasures from around the globe and find that perfect gift for everyone on your list. If it's your turn to host the holidays, do it with style! Find crystal, china, silver, linens, barware, unique serving pieces, table decorations—we've got it all. Plus furniture from every era, for every room, to spruce up before the holidays!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! We look forward to welcoming you soon.

Mark your calendar for the  
biggest sale of the year.  
Our Holiday Sale starts  
November 26th.

### *Don't know what to give?*

Give a Colorado Antique Gallery Gift Card and let them choose from thousands of unique items.



Layaways and all major credit cards accepted.



**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

Monday–Saturday: 10am–6pm  
Sunday: Noon–6pm

**303-794-8100**

5501 S. Broadway • Littleton, CO 80121  
coloradoantiquegallery.com





# Old Crows Antique Mall

10081 West Bowles Avenue  
Littleton, Colorado 303-973-8648

**The Antique Brothers,  
Timmy and Joseph Crawford, Welcome You**  
*New Dealers Welcome! Limited Space Available!*

**World's Largest Root Beer Bar serving ice cream floats, coffee —  
New Root Beers Weekly - We are continually expanding our variety!**

***Happy Veterans Day November 11***  
***Veteran Discounts Every Day***



## Your Holiday Destination

*No Supply Chain Glitches*

### Hours

Mon. - Thurs. 9am - 6pm

Fri. - Sat. 9am - 7pm

Sun. 12pm - 6pm

**GREAT SAVINGS**  
**Dealer Sales**  
**Everyday**

Over 275 Dealers,  
300 Fantastic Cases  
Very Limited Space Remaining  
98% Occupied

Foothills Parks and Recreation  
**BINGO MONTHLY**  
AT OLD CROWS ANTIQUE MALL  
10081 West Bowles Avenue,  
Littleton

**Your Dollars Go Further**  
**at Old Crows**  
**Only 4.93% Sales Tax**

Memories Around Every Corner

[www.OldCrowsAntiques.com](http://www.OldCrowsAntiques.com)



Saturday, November 13  
12 p.m.

**LITTLETON**  
**CAR SHOW**



***Old Crows Antiques — proud sponsors of Colorado's Best, Channels 2 & 31!***



## ARVADA



# Homestead Antiques

6530 Wadsworth Blvd., Suite 130, Arvada, CO 80003

2 Miles North of I-70 on Wadsworth, N.E. Corner of 64th and Wadsworth


[www.homesteadantiquemall.net](http://www.homesteadantiquemall.net) 

720-484-3644 Open 7 Days a Week, 10am - 6pm



*Please join us for  
Small Business Saturday,  
November 27th. Come out  
and visit with your  
favorite family-owned  
Antique Store and  
support small!!!*



Over 70 dealers with a wide variety  
of antiques, vintage furnishings,  
glassware, jewelry, collectibles,  
primitives, shabby chic,  
Western, Native American,  
home decor & more... 

Best  
of Arvada  
Best Antique Mall  
in Arvada



## SHOWS



## Show Calendar

### November, December, January

NOV. 1-6: **LA CACHE RDF (50% off) SALE**, RDF items found in our newly-added Blue Rooms. Our famous Annex no longer exists! 400 Downing Street, Denver, CO 80218, 303-871-9605 or go to [childrenscolorado.org/lacache](http://childrenscolorado.org/lacache) for more info.

NOV. 12-14: **VINTAGE MARKET DAYS of NORTHERN COLORADO** presents *Spruced*, Island Grove Regional Park, 501 N. 14th Ave., Greeley, CO., 10-5 each day.

NOV. 13: **LITTLETON CAR SHOW**, 12 p.m. at Old Crows Antique Mall, 10081 West Bowles Avenue, Littleton. Call 303-973-8648 for more information.

NOV. 13: **RIVERSIDE CEMETERY VETERANS TOUR** sponsored by the **FAIRMOUNT HERITAGE FOUNDATION** tour of Civil War Veterans at Riverside Cemetery, 5201 Brighton Blvd., Denver, CO 10 - 11:30 a.m.

NOV. 19-21: **VINTAGE MARKET DAYS OF COLORADO SPRINGS**, Norris Penrose Event Center, 1045 Lower Gold Camp Road, Colorado Springs, CO, 10 to 5 each day.

NOV. 21: **NIWOT ANTIQUE AUCTION**, 9595 Nelson Rd., Barn A, Longmont, CO, 9-5, Go to [www.niwotauction.com](http://www.niwotauction.com) for more information.

NOV. 26: **COLORADO ANTIQUE GALLERY HOLIDAY SALE**, Biggest Sale of the Year, Join the fun at 5501 South Broadway in Littleton, For more information, call 303-794-8100 or go to [coloradoantiquegallery.com](http://coloradoantiquegallery.com).

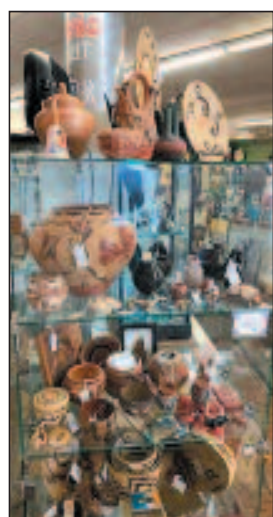
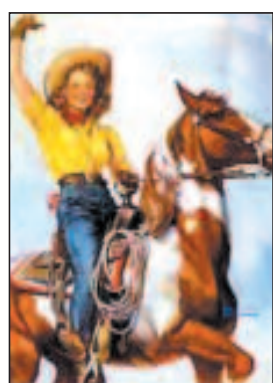
DEC. 10-12: **ROCKS & RAILS MINERAL, GEM & MODEL TRAIN SHOW/ EXPO**, Boulder County Fairgrounds, 9595 Nelson Rd., Longmont, Colorado.

DEC. 11 & 12: **HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW** at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, 500 Fairgrounds Dv., Castle Rock, Colorado.

DEC. 25-31: **XPO GEM, MINERAL & JEWELRY SHOW**, EXPO Hall, 7878 W. 80th Place, Arvada, Colorado

JAN. 21-22: **DENVER POSTCARD & PAPER EPHEMERA SHOW**, at the Holiday Inn in Lakewood, 7390 W. Hampden Ave. For more information, go to [DenverPostcardShow.com](http://DenverPostcardShow.com) or [camobley@ephemeranet.com](mailto:camobley@ephemeranet.com).

## GOLDEN



### ROCKIN' HORSE

#### ANTIQUES & VINTAGE TREASURES

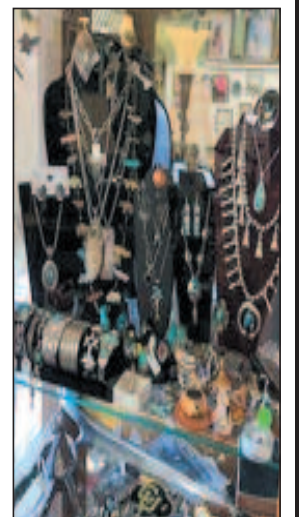
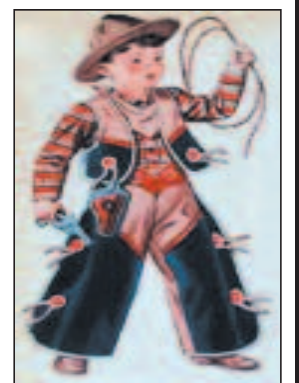
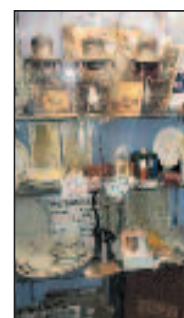
1106 Washington Avenue, Downtown Golden, Colorado

**303-278-8803**

Open Mon.-Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-4

Estate and Turquoise Jewelry, Vinyl Records, Furniture, Western History, License Plates, Coors Advertising, Knives, Coins, Rocks & Minerals, Mining, Native American, Books, Railroad Memorabilia, Vintage 1950s Clothes, Western and Mountain Wear and so much more...

**DEALER SPACE AVAILABLE  
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**







We are thankful for our many readers  
and faithful advertisers.  
*The owners and staff of the  
Mountain States Collector*



SUBSCRIPTIONS

SUBSCRIBE TO THE COLLECTOR

1 year (12 issues)	\$18.00
2 years (24 issues)	\$32.00
3 years (36 issues)	\$45.00

Canada and Mexico \$35.00 per year. Outside North America \$70.00 per year.  
*No refunds.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Spree Enterprises, Inc.  
Box 1003, Bailey, CO 80421-1003

CALENDAR LISTINGS

Calendar Listing Information

Promoters: send us your calendar information. We will publish it free (and in bold-face type) with your display ad. Otherwise the cost is \$35 per issue. Calendar entries are published on a three-month basis (month of show and two months previous). So send in your info as soon as possible. It's never too early. Stories and features about shows are provided free with your display ad.

Dates of Show: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Show or Event: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hours: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Info: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_Send information about advertising.

For more information,  
call 720-276-2777.

Mail coupon and check to: **Spree Enterprises, Inc.,**  
P.O. Box 1003, Bailey, CO 80421-1003

*Deadline: The 20th of the month before the next issue.*

Shows, Auctions,  
Estate Sales and Event  
Calendar listings are  
**FREE** with your  
display ad. Club News  
and Museum News  
also welcome.

DENVER



**RDF (50% off) Sale Nov 1 - 6**

*"Denver's little best-kept secret."*

La Cache is a very special shop offering antiques and fine consignments. Browse sterling, crystal, china, jewelry, art, rugs, furnishings and more.

Fully volunteer run since 1982, we donate all net proceeds to Children's Hospital Colorado.



**Mon-Sat 10 to 4**  
**400 Downing Street, Denver CO 80218**  
**(303) 871-9605**  
**[childrenscolorado.org/lacache](http://childrenscolorado.org/lacache)**


Consignments by appointment only. Donations accepted.

SO. BROADWAY, DENVER



ANTIQUE ROW MERCHANTS, MANY OF WHOM HAVE BEEN IN BUSINESS 30 YEARS OR MORE, OFFER QUALITY ANTIQUES, GARDEN SUPPLIES, FINE WINES, ANTIQUE RUGS, HANDCRAFTED PICTURE FRAMES, RARE DOLLS, TILES, VINTAGE LIGHTING, CUSTOM FURNITURE CRAFTSMEN AS WELL AS SEVERAL DINING ESTABLISHMENTS AND A TEA ROOM

**1100 - 1800 SOUTH BROADWAY**  
**DENVER, COLORADO**  
**[www.ANTIQUE-ROW.COM](http://www.ANTIQUE-ROW.COM)**

  **"like" us on facebook**  
**[www.facebook.com/DenverAntiqueRow](http://www.facebook.com/DenverAntiqueRow)**



**SEVEN BLOCKS OF ANTIQUE DEALERS,  
RESTAURANTS, SPECIALTY SHOPS, AND MORE**



# The Paper Memories Of Thanksgiving

By Robert Reed

The grand holiday of Thanksgiving has been celebrated in many ways over the decades, and a surprising amount of it remains in memories of paper.

Trade cards, holiday postcards, magazine covers, menus, and colorful decorations have all faithfully carried the enduring Thanksgiving theme nationwide.

Historians have long noted that President George Washington delivered an address proclaiming the first official thanksgiving day in November 1789. The event reportedly was already an established occurrence in much of New England. Published accounts say it was a copy of that Washington proclamation which prompted President Abraham Lincoln to renew observation of the event during the Civil War. The paper copy was said to have been sent to Lincoln by Sara Josepha Hale of Philadelphia.

Short decades later merchant's lithographed trade cards were occasionally paying tribute to the all-American holiday. The Singer Sewing Machine company wished customers a "Happy Thanksgiving" with printed cards bearing embossed images of fruits and vegetables. While Christmas was a much more dominate theme for such trade cards, there were a few Thanksgiving choices including Singer, and Acme Stove Company during the 1880s and 1890s.

Thanksgiving was richly represented in the wave of holiday postcards which were introduced early in the 20th century. Enamored by the vivid images and the ease of mailing, Americans flooded the postal service with such cards. The turkey was an obvious symbol, as were Pilgrims, and the scene of the dinner table. Additionally many of the Thanksgiving postcards included patriotic motifs involving the U.S. flag, Uncle Sam, and spangled banners. Major artists of such postcards included Ellen Clapsaddle, Frances Brundage, Bernardt Wall, and H. B. Griggs whose works often included their name. However the major of Thanksgiving postcards were not signed.

By the 1920s the public moved on to folded greeting cards complete with their own envelope for marking holidays. Such greeting cards were certainly more expensive than earlier postcards but were considered more stylish for the decades that followed.

During the 1920s and 1930s there were entire catalogs filled with Thanksgiving and other holiday decorations made almost entirely of paper. In 1924 one wholesale company offered dozens of Thanksgiving place cards, tally cards, paper napkins, and table covers. All were described as "nicely lithographed" and many came with appropriate amounts of crepe paper for further decorating. One of the company's most popular table decorations was the Jack Horner Pie which included a large pump-



kin and a large turkey. Other 12 to 14 inch alternatives included the Haywagon Pie, and the Horn of Plenty Pie. Other decorations came with celluloid kewpie dolls including Kewpie Thanksgiving Chef wearing a cook's apron and cook's hat.

"Thanksgiving assortments are given our special attention," noted the vintage catalog, "and we are sure they will prove most satisfactory."

A major force in the production of holiday-related paper goods in the early 20th century was the Dennison Company. The firm manufactured an enormous variety of paper tableware. They also offered numerous booklets and other publications with instructions for paper decorating inside the home. Even more imaginative was the Beistle Company which produced clever cardboard and honeycombed paper combinations of turkeys, Pilgrims, pumpkins, and similar seasonal items. Beistle marketed a remarkable selection of centerpieces and wall decorations throughout the 20th century.

National magazines often featured Thanksgiving themes as seasonal covers during the first half of the 20th century. Initially the covers were illustrated with the basic elements of the holiday including the pumpkin, turkey, and harvest basket. Gradually such magazine covers became more elegant with the distinguished works of artists such as J.C. Leyendecker and Norman Rockwell.

Generally it was Leyendecker's work which was more dominate in the 1930s, especially on the richly illustrated covers of the Saturday Evening Post. Meanwhile in the midst of the Great Depression of that same era, Collier's magazine used a Thanksgiving cover by Emmett Watson.

That 1931 holiday issue also included a Thanksgiving edi-

torial. Collier's told readers:

"If we have jobs and earnings let's give thanks and share what we have with those less fortunate. If we are without surplus or resource we can take some comfort in the knowledge that our plight is understood and that our friends and neighbors are sensitive to human need and eager to relieve it."

Ironically one of the most unique forms of Thanksgiving paper collectibles came from the Civilian Conservation Corps which were formed to provide work for the jobless during the latter 1930s. Various CCC often celebrated the holiday when their own program or menu for the special event and typically they were based on the efforts of an untrained camp artist.

In 1935 The Giant Thanksgiving Book appeared in the market. Written by Lenore Hetrick the volume contained, "recitations, songs, readings, pantomimes, drills, novelties, pageants, and plays....all ages." The 284 page book was published by Paine Publishing Company of Dayton, Ohio.

Norman Rockwell's Thanksgiving covers were probably more dominate on national magazine covers in the 1940s. They were especially popular during the years of World War II and often related to those in military service as the holiday was observed. Rockwell as also responsible for the Four Freedom posters issued in 1943. Among the four, which were printed in three different sizes, was Freedom From Want which featured Mom and Pop serving a traditional turkey dinner.

During that same decade Life magazine published one of their few Thanksgiving issues, and the First Thanksgiving Book written by Lois Lenski Barksdale was published by the Knopf company. Thanksgiving was also one of several holidays featured on street car and bus line pass/tickets for American cities including Washington, D.C. in that era.

In the decades that followed Thanksgiving was still a steady theme for magazine covers but probably without lavish artistry of before.

Jack and Jill, the children's publication, continued to feature Thanksgiving on the front of their November issues during the 1950s and 1960s. In 1966 the cover also made mention of Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade in New York City. Two years later the New York Daily Newspaper carried a full page advertisement for still enormously popular holiday parade.

According to the original advertisement itself the parade promised appearances by:

"Superman balloon, Smokey the Bear, Shirley Jones, Jack Cassidy, William Shatner, Jerry Vale, Bullwinkle, Johnny Whitaker, Bobby Vinton, Snoopy, Donald Duck, and Mickey Mouse."

Today even the newspaper advertisement of 1968 merits interest among collectors who search for paper memories of Thanksgiving.



ERON JOHNSON ANTIQUES  
CENTURIES OF DESIGN



377 South Lipan St., Unit B • Denver • Colorado • 80223

300.777.8700 • [eronjohnsonantiques.com](http://eronjohnsonantiques.com)

FURNITURE • ARCHITECTURAL • ART • LIGHTING • GLASS

3000+ Items Online • 17th Century to Mid Century Modern



# Benjamin Franklin 'Snatched Lightning From the Sky'

By Barry Krause

Genuine 18th century Benjamin Franklin collectibles are still available for purchase by collectors.

His authentic autographs are not cheap because of constant strong demand for them, but he was a prolific letter writer and signed many documents in the many important functions he had as a Colonial American patriot, statesman, diplomat, writer, editor, philosopher, inventor, scientist, librarian, postmaster and scholar.

Franklin's signature all by itself on a small piece of paper is worth \$3,375; a document signed (DS) by him is valued at about \$8,800 for a typical example; and an "autograph letter signed" (ALS) which is written entirely in Franklin's own hand starts at around \$16,625 at retail today, according to prices listed in The Official Autograph Collector Price Guide by Mark Allen Baker.

A Franklin letter with exceptional contents, such as discussing his political decisions or work on inventions, can be worth much more. Not all good Franklin letters are locked up in museums. Some come on the market from time to time.

"On a single day in 1772 he wrote thirteen letters to as many different persons on subjects ranging from the employment problems at a glass factory... to the selection of books for the Philadelphia Library... and the principle of oath taking," said The American Heritage History of Colonial Antiques (1967).

In his many official and semi-official duties over his long life of 84 years, Franklin signed many documents. Judith Miller's Antiques Price Guide for 2006 mentions just such an available document for collectors today, a "real estate indenture with manuscript notary addendum signed by Franklin as Justice of the Peace, wax and paper seals," and worth \$5,000 to \$8,000 in the current market.

As a professional printer, Franklin made many printings of American Colonial paper currency for individual states when they were still colonies before the Revolutionary War, not personally signed by him, but rather with his imprint identifying his printing shop, such as "Printed by B. FRANKLIN and D. HALL. 1760" which is what we see on a 5 Pound note from Pennsylvania Colony.

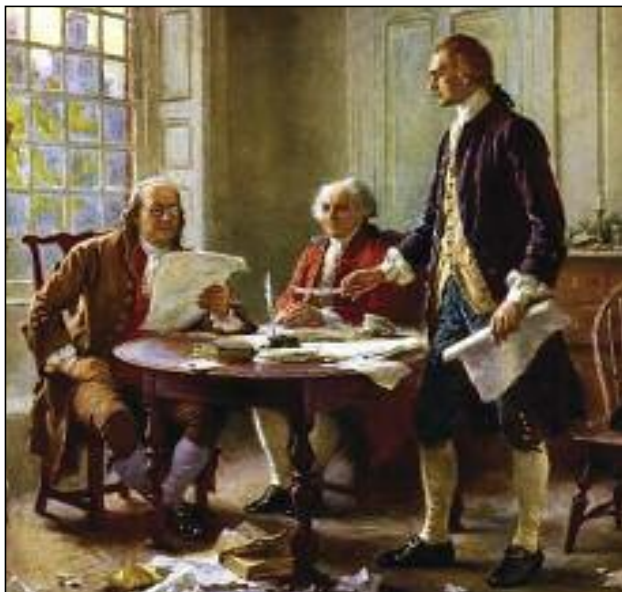
Franklin also helped to print Colonial paper money of Delaware, Maryland and New Jersey, but his Colonial Pennsylvania currency is more plentiful, with a worn specimen available today for a couple of hundred dollars or less. Buy only from experienced dealers in Colonial American currency because counterfeits exist, some very crudely done that should fool nobody, but others of better quality as collector forgeries.



Contemporary counterfeits" of Franklin's currency were made while it still circulated in the mid-18th century, and are quite collectible today at modest prices, but watch out for modern reprints artificially aged to fool collectors.

Benjamin Franklin was a skilled writer, and 18th century editions of his Poor Richard's Almanack and Autobiography bring four figure prices today and are still quoted with Franklin's timeless phrases of wisdom, such as "God helps them that help themselves" and "Early to be and early to rise, Makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise."

Look for original printings of his



Almanack which was published annually from 1733 to 1758, and also for copies of The Pennsylvania Gazette newspaper which Franklin printed from 1729 to 1766.

Original paintings and sculptures of Franklin done from life are mostly in museums beyond the reach of any collectors, no matter how wealthy, but "working copies" and old replicas of these art works, some dating from the 18th century, may be found for sale. Cheaper are those made in the 19th century, as a rule.

Often reproduced and imitated by other artists are such famous paintings as John Trumbull's "Signing of the Declaration of Independence" (painted by Trumbull circa 1786-1819) which depicts Franklin as one of the patriots present, as indeed he was; "Benjamin Franklin Drawing Electricity from the Sky," painted circa 1816 by Benjamin West and featuring Franklin doing his experiment with a kite and key that proved lightning is electricity; and popular Franklin close-up portraits such as the one done by Joseph Duplessis during the 1780s.

Engravings and sketches of Franklin that were printed in 18th century publications are more desirable than 19th century examples, in general. Be careful of altered dates and questionable provenances (ownership histories).

The so-called "Franklin stove" was actually a clever combination of stove and fireplace device invented by Franklin, although he may have gotten the idea from some European stoves made earlier. Few 18th century examples of Franklin's stove exist outside museums today, but his writings about his stove in pamphlets and letters may turn up once in a while.

Franklin never patented his inventions of the stove, lightning rod and bifocal eyeglasses, nor used them for personal profit, preferring to let his new ideas to be freely adopted by anyone for the public good.

After Franklin died, his portrait was widely used on medals, tokens and state banknotes, many of which are for sale today at prices to suit all collecting budgets. After George Washington, Franklin was the early American patriot most often used for street signs and business advertising, and any genuine 18th century examples would be premium items if offered for sale now.

The famous marble busts of Franklin by the French sculptor Jean-Antoine Houdon were first made while Franklin served as an American diplomat in France in the late 1770s, and you can view original examples at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Other versions of Houdon's bust of Franklin are known in plaster and terra-cotta, but replicas and imitations abound, and a fair image of the bust in profile is on the Franklin silver half dollars issued from 1948 through 1963 by the U.S. Mint.

Books about Franklin that were first issued in the 18th century are especially desirable, such as the 1773 first French edition of Oeuvres de M Franklin ("Works of Mr. Franklin"), printed in Paris in small format, and now valued at \$2,000; or the Private Life of the Late Benjamin Franklin, published in London in 1793, and worth \$750 for a rebound copy, according to Huxford's Old Book Value Guide.

Benjamin and his brother, James Franklin, are both credited with making nice woodcuts and metalcuts for printing decorations and illustrations on work done in their printing shops. An original piece of printing gear that was actually used by Franklin would bring top dollar today if it could be authenticated accurately.

Benjamin Franklin was internationally famous while he was alive. His name and deeds were household knowledge throughout Colonial America and Europe, and he is still one of the best beloved Americans of all time.

As French financier, A.J. Turgot, remarked about Franklin after Franklin successfully negotiated the difficult Treaty of Paris of 1783 that officially ended our Revolutionary War and made America independent as a nation, "He snatched lightning from the sky and the scepter from tyrants."



## COLORADO SPRINGS



### 505 Trolley

3037 North Hancock  
Colorado Springs, CO  
80907

505trolley.com

719-233-8639

Wed.-Sat. 10 am - 5pm

## CASTLE ROCK



303-688-1207

www.castlerockconsignment.com

807 Wilcox Street  
Castle Rock, CO 80104



**The Mountain States Collector**, a tabloid newspaper dedicated to promoting the enjoyment of antiques and collecting in the Rocky Mountain region, is distributed the first weekend of every month through shops, auctions, flea markets and antique shows, and is mailed to subscribers.

(Opinions of the writers contained herein are not necessarily the opinions of the publishers.)

Advertising information: call Jon DeStefano at 720-276-2777 or email him at jondestef@gmail.com or for any other information, call Peg DeStefano at 303-910-2604 or email us at sprepub@mac.com

**Publisher**

Spree Enterprises, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1003  
Bailey, CO 80421  
sprepub@mac.com

**Executive Director**

Jon DeStefano

**Managing Editor**

Margaret (Peg) DeStefano,  
NSCDA/Colorado, D.A.R.,  
FFHC (hcgs), Ohio-USD1812

**Webmaster**

Sam DeStefano  
sam@mbrealestatepros.com  
Shaleen Moore, Shaleen  
@blackbirdmediainc.com

**Production**

Spree Enterprises, Inc.  
Peg DeStefano  
Jon Patrick DeStefano  
Sam DeStefano

**Printing**

Signature Offset



# The Lighting of Art Nouveau

By Robert Reed

The beauty of Art Nouveau and the amazing light of electricity arrived at nearly the same time in the twilight of one century and the dawn of still another.

"Nouveau was flowing, growing lines of vines and trailing flowers," wrote Jean Minar Paris. "It was foliage that grew across page and wall, from chair leg to table top, and wound around the necks and wrists of beautifully adorned ladies in unsurpassed creatively designed jewelry."

And both the light and the art of the era flowed from the lamps of Art Nouveau.

Art Nouveau shown brightly in Europe and finally in the United States from the 1890s until the outbreak of World War I. The progressive decorative style was largely bounded by curved lines and based on natural forms.



While it was apparently introduced at the Paris shop of Samuel Bing in 1895, it was a style that was soon warmly welcomed elsewhere. In Austria the style was called Sezessionstil, in Germany it was Jugendstil or youth style, in Spain it was simply Modernista, and in Italy it was style Liberty after the English depart-

ment stores which so heavily promoted it. It was still clearly identified as Art Nouveau in the United States, but the focus was largely limited to glass and lamps.

"As a movement, Art Nouveau in America became a style of ornamentation," notes John S. Bowman the author of American Furniture, "essentially confined to areas other than furniture. Relatively few pieces of furniture were made, and yet Louis Comfort Tiffany's glass and glass lampshades received international acclaim."

For a country that had both Tiffany and technology, it followed that one of the mainstays of the art here would be lovely lamps.

"The invention and use of electricity opened a whole new world for lamp designers in the later days of the 19th century when Art Nouveau was at its height in America," points out the Field Guide to Antiques and Collectibles.

"Bulbs could face up or down, and sideways and could be designed as a flame, rose, or animal. Anything. Anyway. They could be hidden behind seashells and under beads, with fringe and with art glass shades or silk."

Of course not all Art Nouveau lamps were strictly electrical ones. As Nadja Maril points out in American Lighting 1840 to 1940, combination gas and electric fixtures were made in every variation of style, and some included lead glass and featured "trailing leaves and flower-shaped shades, as well as traditional brass."

But it was the Edison inspired electric lamp that was truly designed as a work of art according to Maril:

"Using nature as a model, the base of a lamp was often in the form of a flower stem or tree trunk and the shade represented the flower petals. In many instances bulbs were left bare, representing flower buds."

As early as the 1880s Thomas Edison had produced a pear-shaped bulb as part of his 16-candle-power lamp. The beaming bulbs could be pointed in different directions to highlight the shade or become a part of the whole image.

In 1910 the Sears, Roebuck and Company home builder's catalog featured a few electrical lamps under the heading, "latest designs in L'Art Nouveau leaded glass." The Tulip, for example, came with an art glass shade, brass base, and Edison chain pull socket. It stood 22 inches high and sold for \$9.95.

Edison and Tiffany worked together as early as the 1880s on the interior designs of such New York showplaces as the Madison Square Theater and the Lyceum Theater.

From there Tiffany



pressed on to become, in the opinion of the National Museum of American Art in Washington, D.C., "America's most brilliant, extravagant design and decorative artist of the late Victorian and Edwardian eras."

Some art historians note that Tiffany was inspired by European artists and designers of the Art Nouveau era, but he added a very individualistic emphasis on nature and naturalism based on his own background.

"Tiffany created iridescent glass of extraordinary beauty," observes The Encyclopedia of Antiques by Arthur Negus. "Those patterns of peacock feathers, tulips, lilies, and dragonflies so perfectly fit the asymmetrical yet natural lines of Art Nouveau."

His dragonfly lamp combined Japanese art with lavishly colored glass, and his Wisteria lead-glass table lamp imitated the flower and vine of the Wisteria plant.

At its peak between early 1900 and 1917, Tiffany Studios employed some 200 artists and artisans, paying some of them as much as \$10,000 annually to produce fine works including lamps.

The quality and the wages made Tiffany lamps expensive. His Wisteria lamp, for example, retailed for \$400 at a time when the average working wage was \$8 to \$10 per week.

However those who couldn't afford true Tiffany lamps had dozens of other options including lamps with the far less expensive panel glass applied to them.

Others producing wonderful Art Nouveau lamps of the period included Handel and Company of Connecticut, Quezal Art Glass and Decorating Company of New York, Fostoria Glass Specialty Company of Ohio, and the Steuben Glass Company in New York—among others.

Eventually mail-order catalog companies were able to offer trim and attractive lamps in the 'modern' style for around a week's pay.

Historically and artistically the age of Art Nouveau proved to be one of the most creative and productive. There were lamps in America, furniture in Europe, bronzes and jewelry everywhere and eventually "even automobiles were designed within the realm of its dictates," according to Schroeder's Antiques Price Guide.

"Today's market abounds with lovely examples of Art Nouveau," they conclude in their report, "allowing the collector to choose one or several areas that hold a special interest."

## CIVIL WAR BOOK NOW AT BARNES AND NOBLE, TOO

The subtitle of the book is "A Biblical Version of the American Civil War." Whether to distinguish it from, or to draw it closer to The Bible, one might suspect Joseph DeStefano is wanting to reclaim our attention with circumstances and characters of bygone, perhaps nobler times. But, as he makes clear in his preface, it is the times we are living in. "Now, in 2020," with their own potential of nobility, and of ruin, that makes his effort seem "especially relevant" to him. He writes:

"I take up the spiritual content of our worst national crisis to date in an attempt to inspire us to ask and answer old questions anew — within ourselves."

And, indeed, the first speech of Abraham Lincoln, only a few pages into the first part, might just as well have been written yesterday as 160 years ago. And so it is with the words and actions of Jefferson Davis, of Grant and Lee, of Sherman, Forrest, and Frederick Douglass, and of all the rest. In *The*

*Book of Abraham*, the crystalline prose of Bruce Catton, the breathtaking stories of Shelby Foote, together with the research of Joshua Wolf Shenk, James McPherson, and Ibram X. Kendi, are interlarded with extractions of *The Old Testament*, and of other ancient works, and with poetry, oratory and song of more modern authors and actors—interlarded, that is, with inspiration available to all our current creeds.

Answering old questions anew, himself, DeStefano is obviously only interested in that which has proved timeless. He offers it all as "A Gift," for us to wonder at its startling power, yes, but more to help us recognize the challenge of its continuing pertinence. This book believes in us—in what we are now: both what we have been and what we can be."

*The Book of Abraham's* author Joseph DeStefano is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He teaches high school English in Littleton, Colorado where he lives with his wife and children.

You can order your copy of *The Book of Abraham* through Amazon. You can use this link:

Now available through Barnes and Noble and Amazon.  
ISBN 13:  
9781087898285

## WHEAT RIDGE

COLLECTIBLES

TREASURES

Unique Treasures Antiques & Collectibles

7341 W. 44th Avenue, Wheat Ridge, Colorado

1 Block East of Wadsworth on 44th

OPEN Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

303-993-3868

Over 20 Dealers to Shop From \*Rental Space Available Vintage Decor, Furniture, Toys, Linens, Jewelry and More

## NORTH DENVER



Connie's Antiques & Treasures

3832 Tennyson Street, Denver, CO 80212

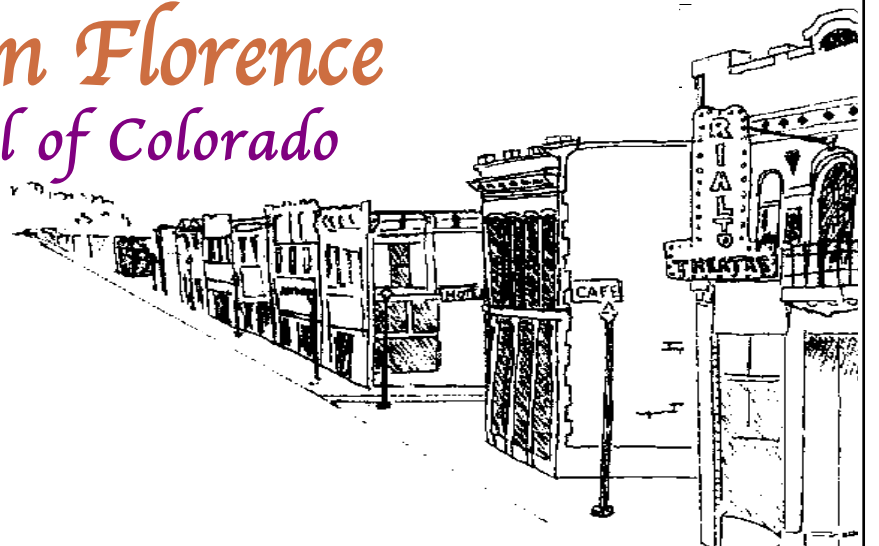
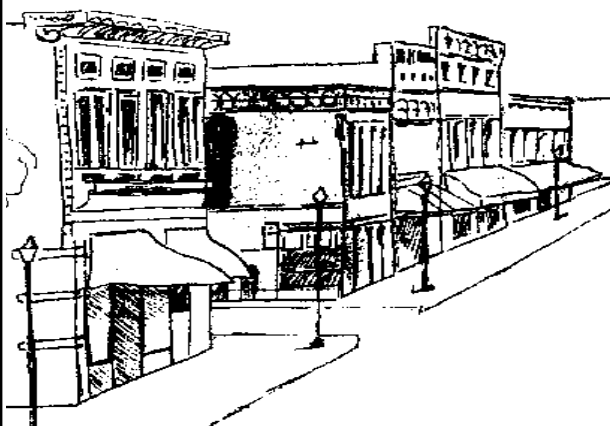
720-557-2563 • Wednesday thru Sunday 10-6



# Find It All in Florence

## Antique Capital of Colorado

We take great pride in being a "great little town" where you're a stranger only once!



Rena Pryor



Larry Nelson & Friends 719-338-1628



Salvage, Antiques, Vintage, Etc.

200 West block of Main St.

Facebook shop 24/7: [www.facebook.com/saveinflorence/shop/](http://www.facebook.com/saveinflorence/shop/)

Erin and Barna, 719-821-3263



**Antique Warehouse**

Vintage Lighting & Western Accoutrements

110 E. Main Street,  
Florence, CO 81226

719-372-1016



125 E. Main Street,  
Florence, CO

Sue Tierney, Owner  
630-292-2472

Follow us on Facebook  
and Instagram

**Trending on Main**  
Home Decor & Gifts



**Blue Spruce Gallery  
Art and Antiques**

"The Best of Both Worlds"

Fine Arts & Crafts, Select Antiques in a Victorian Setting

205 West Main, Florence, CO

719-784-1339

[bluespruceart.com](http://bluespruceart.com)



719-784-7376

202 W. Main St • Florence, CO



Debutors of

**The Artful Antiquarium**

[brunswick@yahoo.com](mailto:brunswick@yahoo.com)

318 W. Main Street  
Florence, Colorado 81226

719-565-7313

## 10 Things to be Thankful For

By Sandy Dale

Once I got started making my list of 10 things for which to be thankful, it was hard to stop and I definitely wasn't going to prioritize them. So here's the list...not necessarily in order of importance.

1. Honking Geese. Flying in perfect "V" formation and honking like an old Model T, they reminded me of the incredible gifts bestowed by Mother Nature (and of what my subject should be for this November, or any day, for that matter).

2. Intermittent warm, sunny days. The "Indian Summer" days between the cold, frosty, sleety days of November give us a little extra time to finish up the yard work we neglected in "all-too-beautiful" October.

3. The Pour House and The Aspen Leaf. My favorite coffee houses just down the street provide a super place to meet and greet my friends and neighbors or escape from my projects and enjoy tasty treats, good coffee, and friends passing by.

4. My Projects. Though sometimes overwhelming, I am so very grateful for the many odd chairs and little tables that I find in our antique, consignment, and thrift stores. It keeps me somewhat sane to paint them up and find them homes.

5. Decorating for the Holidays. As I finally take the Halloween witch out of the window of my studio, I wonder what a Thanksgiving witch or, better yet, a Yuletide witch might look like.

6. Spices. I don't know why I don't think of these spices any other time of the year. There's cinnamon, and yes, pumpkin spice. And peppermint as in ice cream. And hot chocolate with a dash of Bailey's or Peppermint schnapps...

7. Friends and Neighbors. We all get friendlier and more neighborly at this time of year.

8. My Neighbor's 25+ pound Cat. Benny is a huge marmalade colored cat who thinks he belongs to me...or maybe he just pretends he is mine to make me feel loved. I truly enjoy his cat energy when he comes to visit most mornings.

9. The Bell Tower Cultural Art Center. This beautiful church-turned-art center has provided entertainment and purpose for me and many other folks. Operated solely by volunteers, it offers classes, concerts, lectures, art exhibits and much more.

10. Florence. Over the last few years, I have expounded often about this little town - the shops, the food, the art, but it is the people and the small town kindness for which I am truly thankful.





## COLLECTIBLES

# The History of Play-Doh

Did you know that the earliest versions of Play-Doh were once used to clean wallpaper? The Kutol company of Cincinnati originally invented Play-Doh in the 1930s as a product to be rolled over wallpaper to remove dirt without damaging the paper. Later, vinyl wallpapers could be cleaned with water, so the product fell out of use until a teacher with family ties to the company used it with her preschool class to make Christmas ornaments. The company removed detergents from the recipe, added color and scent and changed the name to give it the new identity that we know today!

It was reworked and marketed to Cincinnati schools in the mid-1950s. Play-Doh was demonstrated at an educational convention in 1956 and prominent department stores opened retail accounts.

Play-Doh became a modeling compound for young children to make arts and crafts projects at home. Play-Doh advertisements promoting Play-Doh on influential children's television shows in 1957 furthered the product's sales. Since its launch on the toy market in the mid-1950s, Play-Doh has generated a considerable amount of ancillary merchandise.

The non-toxic, non-staining, reusable modeling compound that came to be known as "Play-Doh" was a pliable, putty-like substance concocted by Noah McVicker of Cincinnati-based soap man-



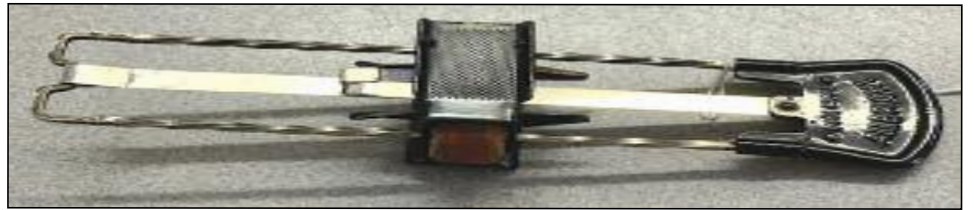
ufacturer Kutol Products. It was devised at the request of Kroger Grocery which wanted a product that could clean coal residue from wallpaper.

Following World War II, with the transition from coal-based home heating to natural gas and the resulting decrease in internal soot, and the introduction of washable vinyl-based wallpaper, the market for wallpaper cleaning putty decreased substantially.

McVicker's nephew, Joe McVicker, was the brother-in-law of nursery school teacher Kay Zufall, who had seen a newspaper article about making art projects with the wallpaper cleaning putty. Her students enjoyed it, and she persuaded Noah McVicker and Joe McVicker to manufacture it as a child's toy. Zufall and her husband came up with the name Play-Doh; Joe McVicker and his uncle Noah had wanted to call it "Rainbow Modeling Compound."

## CONTEST

# October's What Is It?



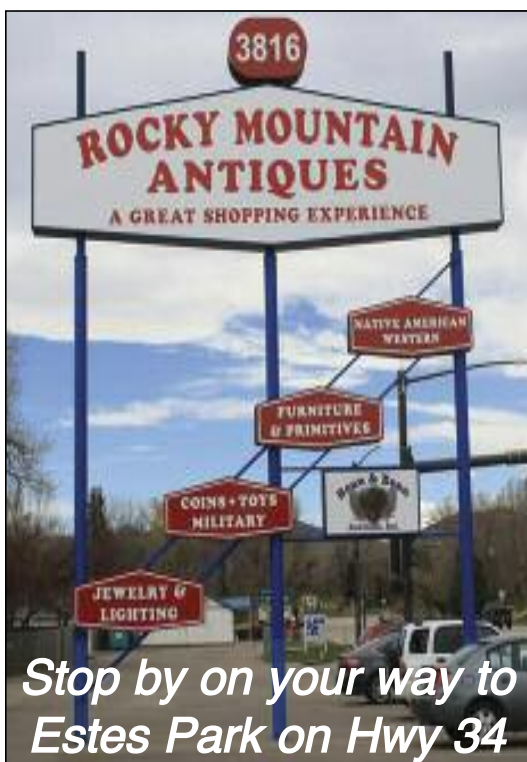
We had no guesses for October's What Is It. It will remain a mystery. The Rocky Mountain Antiques store in Loveland will have it on hand for any reader who would like to examine it. We're sorry that we couldn't help in this search. Let us know if you know what it is. We will publish any information about this "thingumajig" that you can share.



# November's What Is It?

Send your answers to the What Is It contest, postmarked by November 20, to *the Mountain States Collector*, P.O. Box 1003, Bailey, CO 80421. At least three winners will be drawn. Winners will receive a year's subscription to *the Mountain States Collector*.

## LOVELAND



Stop by on your way to Estes Park on Hwy 34

**Right Price,  
Right Place,  
A Large Variety  
of Antiques  
and Collectibles**

Open 7 days a week  
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

3816 W. Eisenhower Blvd.  
Loveland / 970-669-7440

WWW.Rockymountain  
antiques.net



## PINE



### Pine Emporium

16714 Pine Valley Rd.  
Pine, Colorado 80470  
**303-838-5150**  
bobaaac@aol.com

Antiques, Gifts, Art Gallery, Tom Clark  
Gnomes, Jewelry, Furniture, Vintage Fabric,  
Clothes, Books, Glassware, Collectibles.

**OPEN: Friday, Saturday and Sunday**

## CLASSIFIEDS

### FOR SALE:

**PIE SAFE** 1920s English  
Pine 60X50X15, Call 303-  
770-6931 (10-21)

**ANTIQUe FURNITURE:**  
Halltree, small roll top desk,  
coffee table (marble top), Small  
shelf/table (marble top), small  
end table, small table. All very  
good condition. blslash@com  
cast.net. (4-21)

## LAFAYETTE



**VISIT:**  
409 So. Public Rd.  
Lafayette, CO  
80026

**CONTACT:**  
303-926-4060  
nobletreasures@  
hotmail.com

**HOURS:**  
Mon.-Sat.,  
10am-5pm  
Sun. 12 pm-5pm

## NORTHGLENN



10685 Melody Dr.  
Northglenn, Colorado  
I-25/104th

Check for Available Space  
**303-280-8114**

<https://oldwagon.wixsite.com/antique>

# Old Wagon Antique Mall

**Come Shop With Us —Over 100 Dealers To Choose From**

*Toys, Clocks, Glass, Furniture, Collectibles, Books*

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Daily, Saturday 10:30 to 5, 12 to 4 Sundays, Closed Tuesdays



**STOREWIDE  
SALES**

Like us on  
Facebook





*Happy Thanksgiving!*



# THE Brass Armadillo® antique mall

**11301 W. I-70 Frontage Rd.  
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033**

**303-403-1677  
877-403-1677**

**Open 7 Days a Week  
9 am - 9 pm**



*The Brass Armadillo is a professionally operated business that takes antiques and collectibles seriously. We work to have quality items at good prices.*

*The mall is open from 9am to 9pm. every day, except Christmas. We host seminars, workshops and training events.*

